

# Will Simmons

Columbia University, New York, NY  
w.simmons@columbia.edu · 808-202-3157 · simmwill.github.io

## Education

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<b>Master of Public Health, Epidemiology &amp; Applied Biostatistics</b> Columbia University, Mailman School of Public Health, New York, NY Focuses: environmental epidemiology, biostatistical and data science methods	<b>2018 - 2020</b>  GPA: 4.0
<b>Bachelor of Science, Neuroscience</b> Baylor University, Waco, TX Focuses: neuroanatomy & physiology, community-based health research, statistics	<b>2011 - 2015</b>  GPA: 4.0

## Scholarships and Honors

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1st prize - research poster presentation, NYC Clinical Climate Change Conference, Mt. Sinai	2020
1st prize - research presentation, Master's Student Day, Columbia Dept. of Epidemiology	2019
Delta Omega Honor Society	2019
Wyman Scholar, Columbia University (full tuition: \$80,000)	2018
Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society	2014
Glennis McCrary Goodrich Scholarship Award for International Research (\$3,500)	2013
Regent's Gold Scholar, Baylor University (full tuition: \$138,000)	2011

## Current & Previous Research

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<b>Fine particulate matter, extreme heat events, and congenital heart defects</b> Department of Epidemiology, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health	<b>Nov. 2019 - present</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Supervisor: Dr. Jeanette Stingone</li><li>• Investigate relationships between maternal exposures (extreme heat events, PM<sub>2.5</sub>) and congenital heart defect subtypes</li><li>• Prepare and analyze data from Nat'l Birth Defects Prevention Study (NBDPS), largest study of birth defects in the US</li><li>• Supported by nationwide research sites and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC)</li></ul>	
<b>Climate variation and under-5 acute malnutrition in Bangladesh</b> International Research Institute for Climate & Society, Earth Institute, Columbia University	<b>Feb. 2019 - present</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Supervisors: Dr. Hannah Nissan and Dr. Robbie Parks</li><li>• Investigate associations between climate events and child anthropometry at seasonal and sub-seasonal scales</li><li>• Merge, harmonize, and analyze large, administrative climate and nutrition surveillance datasets</li><li>• Contribute biostatistical and epidemiological skillset to team of top Columbia researchers for ACToday (<a href="#">read more</a>)</li></ul>	
<b>Water quality, food security, and under-5 nutritional status in rural Kenya</b> Baylor University, Waco, TX	<b>Jan. 2013 - May 2015</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Supervisor: Prof. Lisa Baker, MD PhD</li><li>• Epidemiologic study of child diet, water quality, and anthropometry in indigenous Luo community</li><li>• Results used to inform NGO-led water and nutrition interventions utilized by 1,000+ in Nyakach, Kenya</li></ul>	

# Teaching & Professional Experience

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## Graduate Teaching Assistant

Aug. 2019 - Dec. 2019

Departments of Biostatistics & Epidemiology, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health

- Teaching assistant for graduate-level Quantitative Methods module in Columbia MSPH's CORE Curriculum
- Instructed 25 students once weekly in introductory biostatistics and epidemiology

## Food Systems Specialist

Aug. 2015 - Jul. 2018

Hawai'i Alliance for Community-Based Economic Development, Honolulu, HI

- Coordinated interisland network of 20+ grassroots organizations in indigenous health and environmental justice
- Wrote successful grant proposals and contracts totaling \$600,000+ for community food systems work
- Two-term AmeriCorps VISTA and subsequent full-time staff member

## Lead Program Evaluator

May 2015 - Aug. 2015

Our Children, Their Nutrition

- Led monitoring and evaluation efforts of childhood nutrition education program in low-SES communities
- Contributed to research presented at APHA 2015 Annual Meeting

## Development Intern, Africa Bureau

Jun. 2014 - Aug. 2014

United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Washington, DC

- Provided technical and capacity building support to USAID Country Development Officers throughout Southern Africa
- Created briefing materials for high-level initiatives, including President Barack Obama's Young African Leaders Initiative

# Presentations

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**Simmons W**, Nissan H (2020). *Climate variation and anthropometric indicators of under-5 nutrition: Bangladesh, 1990-2006*. Poster, 2nd Annual Conference on Clinical Climate Change. Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. New York, NY. First prize.

"Food, climate, and environment: What's next?" (2019). Panel moderator and organizer. Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health. New York, NY.

**Simmons W**, Nissan H (2019). *Exploring associations between climate and under-5 nutritional status in Bangladesh, 1990-2006*. Invited presentation, Epi Master's Student Day. Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, New York, NY. First prize.

**Simmons W**, Baker L (2016). *Clean water, food security, or protein? A study of growth among children in rural western Kenya*. Contributor to presentation, 13th Annual Global Health & Innovation Conference. Yale University, New Haven, CT.

# Skills

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## Languages, Software, & Packages

Proficient: R (tidyverse), SAS, SQL (Access, MySQL)

Familiar: MATLAB, QGIS, R Shiny

## Certifications

HIPAA, CITI Human Subjects

## Tools

Familiar: Git/DVCS, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X